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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection
of Minorities
Forty-fourth session
Item 6 of the provisional agenda

# QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION AND OF APARTHEID, IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXXIII)

## Letter dated 1 June 1992 from the Permanent Representative of Palestine to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights

1. For the eighth consecutive day, the Israeli occupation authorities have imposed a military blockade on the Gaza Strip and a curfew on the camps of Nuseirat, Maghazi and Bureij and on the town and camp of Deir el-Balah, thus bringing the threat of dreadful famine to the Strip, where mass punishment is clearly being inflicted on its citizens, numbering over half a million Palestinians, in gross and flagrant violation of the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention. The embargo is now permeated by brutal acts on the part of the occupation authorities and Israeli settlers, such as destroying private property, setting fire to domestic furnishings, uprooting fruit-bearing trees, shooting to kill and randomly and arbitrarily arresting groups of youths.

2. On 31 May 1992, the Israeli occupation authorities also stormed the village of Aqraba, south-east of Nablus, and randomly arrested the following 71 Palestinians:

1. Magda Hamed Bani Muniya
2. Farhan Hamed Bani Muniya
3. Hani Majid Bani Muniya
4. Jada'an Mahmud Bani Muniya
5. Majid Dhib Bani Muniya
6. Kamal Shahhada Bani Muniya
7. Bilal Shahhada Bani Muniya
8. Yusuf Muhammad Bani Muniya
9. Zahi Wadi' Bani Jabir
10. Fouad Wadi' Bani Muniya
11. Mufid Wadi' Bani Muniya
12. Ahmad Zayid Bani Muniya
13. Mahmud Ahmad Bani Jabir
14. Zakariya Ahmad Bani Jabir
15. Muhammad Abdullah Bani Jabir
16. Fathi Mustafa Bani Jabir
17. Amjad Farid Dairiya
18. Muhammad Rifa'at Dairiya
19. Nawwaf Nayif Bani Hamid
20. Khalil Rabi' Bani Jabir
21. Nayiq Salim Bani Jabir
22. Adnan Rajih Bani Jabir
23. Adil Hamed Bani Jabir
24. Sabri Ahmad Bani Jabir
25. Basim Ahmad Bani Jabir
26. Samir Hussein Bani Jabir
27. Ribhi Nayif Bani Jabir
28. Khair Muhammad Bani Jabir
29. Majid Muhammad Bani Fadhl
30. Bilal Hamd Bani Fadhl
31. Muhammad Nassar Bani Fadhl
32. Haitham Fawzi Bani Fadhl
33. Bilal Muhammad Bani Jami'
34. Ghassan Muhammad Bani Jami'
35. Ahmad Khalid Dairiya
36. Mahmud Abdullah Bani Jabir
37. Rizqallah Abdullah Bani Jabir
38. Hussein Shukri Dairiya
39. Raghib Sa'ada Dairiya
40. Adib Arif Dairiya
41. Samer Izzat Dairiya
42. Salem Izzat Dairiya
43. Abdullah Izzat Dairiya
44. Khairallah Mahmud Dairiya
45. Ayman Musa Dairiya
46. Muhammad Musa Dairiya
47. Hussam Nayif Dairiya

48. Samed Abdul Karim Hilal
49. Ra'id Na'im al-Badri
50. Samer Khairallah Abu Salah
51. Izzat Ibrahim Dairiya
52. Ismail Mahmud Abu Kibr
53. Dhiban Rifa'at Dairiya
54. Muhammad Abdul Fattah Hulw
55. Dhaifallah Hassan Ibrahim
56. Murad Tawfiq al-Shayyib
57. Sami Ahmad Abu Hammad
58. Ayman Rizq Dairiya
59. Aysar Rizq Dairiya
60. Raja' Rizq Dairiya
61. Mahir Faris Abu Saqr
62. Fathi Faris Abu Saqr
63. Tahir Faris Abu Saqr
64. Fadi Faris Abu Saqr
65. Nafedh al-Hajj Abu Saqr
66. Osama Khidr Dairiya
67. Bishar Muhammad Dairiya
68. Muhammad Abu Hadib Dairiya
69. Ibrahim Mahmud Abu Kibr
70. Ahmad Farid Dairiya
71. Omar Muhammad Dairiya

3. Israel and the occupied Palestinian territories are currently witnessing a vigorous campaign among Israelis and Jewish settlers amid cries to kill Palestinians wherever they might be found and calls to banish them from their territory and homeland.

4. The present bloody and vehement campaign in Israel against Palestinians is being conducted under supervision from the occupation authorities and with their encouragement and protection, thereby warning of human massacres to be added to the mass slaughters perpetrated by Israel in the past and condemned at the time by the international community.

5. As a result of Israeli practices, the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories has now deteriorated to such a point, where all values and principles are renounced and where the occupation authorities have surrendered to the frenzy of power, arrogance and loathsome domination; the international community should therefore assume a major responsibility in providing international protection for the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation, particularly since it has hitherto proved unable to compel Israel, as an occupation authority in the occupied Palestinian and other Arab territories, to respect its international undertakings and its obligations as a member of the United Nations and a party to the Fourth Geneva Convention.

6. This memorandum is addressed to you in the hope that you, in addition to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, will intercede as quickly as possible with the Government of Israel to halt the practices carried out against the Palestinian people by the Israeli occupation authorities, Israeli settlers and the veiled armed groups belonging to the Israeli army, as well as

urge it to respect the principles of international law and the provisions of the Fourth Geneva Convention which, in view of their universality, apply to the Palestinian occupied territories, and to abide by the resolutions of the Security Council, the General Assembly and the Commission on Human Rights, and the relevant statements of the International Committee of the Red Cross. We also request that this memorandum should be circulated as an official document of the next session of the Commission on Human Rights and the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

(Signed) Nabil Ramlawi
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Palestine at
the United Nations at Geneva and the other
international organizations in Switzerland

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Items 6, 7 and 8 of the provisional agenda

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION AND OF APARTHEID, IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXIII)

THE NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER AND THE PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

THE REALIZATION OF ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Letter dated 6 June 1992 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Albania to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Under-Secretary-General for Human Rights

1. I am particularly pleased to address myself to you through this letter in order to let you know about the development of the democratic processes in Albania, as well as about the great importance being attached to the protection of human rights in my country.

2. As you may be aware, since fall 1990, deep-going political and social transformations have taken place in Albania, as an outcome of which the country embarked on the course of the democratic developments that embraced Central and Eastern Europe. Within a short period of time, political pluralism was sanctioned, freedom of religion was restored and religious institutions were reopened, freedom of the press and expression was established, all the prisoners of conscience were released and efforts are being made to fully integrate them into normal life. During the previous

year, Albania became a party to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which guaranteed to a considerable extent the citizens' fundamental freedoms and human rights, in conformity with the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

3. Last year, Albania was accepted as a full-fledged member country of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). Likewise, it made great efforts to put an end to its half-a-century isolation inherited from the dictatorship. As a CSCE member country, it meets all the obligations deriving from the Copenhagen and Moscow documents.

4. The multiparty free elections held on 22 March of this year were an excellent example of the peaceful way followed by the people to definitely topple down the old system and to establish a system founded on law, the market economy and the granting of human rights and fundamental freedoms to citizens. The government that emerged from the free elections has committed itself to make all-round efforts to restore the country's economy and to strengthen the democratic institutions. Judicial power was separated from the other powers. The Ministry of Justice was set up and legal defence was introduced. State administrations were reformed, the Constitutional Court of Law was set up and work is under way to set up the Ombudsman institutions.

5. Referring to the above-mentioned changes, I have the pleasure to impart to you that Albania is making efforts in order to play an as active role as possible in the United Nations Organization and all the other international bodies. The special relations already established with the Council of Europe, through the assistance of which a broad-scale programme on human rights and legal and constitutional system in Albania is being followed, shall be crowned with my country's accession to the European Cultural Convention. The contacts and cooperation with a considerable number of governmental and non-governmental organizations, with parliamentarians, etc., testify to the seriousness with which Albania has committed itself onto the road of democracy.

6. Likewise, the radical changes that have taken place in the field of human rights in Albania have had their positive impact on the close cooperation of the Albanian Government with the Centre for Human Rights in Geneva and its rapporteurs, on the reports of the fact-finding CSCE missions. In February this year, a draft programme on technical assistance was signed between the United Nations Centre for Human Rights and the Albanian Government, the application of which will give fresh impulse to the work to become familiar with and institutionalize all the issues pertaining to human rights in Albania.

7. Proceeding from the above, I have the honour to address myself to you in order to kindly ask you that the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities examine the suspension of the 1503 Procedure and of the resolution on Albania and, in relation to this, make the relevant recommendations to the Commission on Human Rights. In my opinion, such an action is in full compliance with the situation of human rights in Albania.

(Signed): Alfred Serraqi
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of Albania